

bring people together to learn about world hunger and empower them to take action. His financial contributions have been great, but it is his compassion and sense of humanity which has been the force behind his actions.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to commend this individual today, and I would ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Mr. Feinstein.

RESCISSION BILL

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 1995

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I submitted a statement expressing my strong opposition to the rescission package before us because of the detrimental effect this bill would have on my constituents. At this time, I would like to add one point which I neglected to discuss in my earlier remarks—the rescission of \$7.7 million for the Northeast Corridor improvement project [NEICP].

The funding to be rescinded was appropriated in 1977, 1979, and 1980 and was to be used to improve or close at-grade crossings along the Northeast Corridor route. When the Federal Railroad Administration [FRA] originally submitted options for improving these crossings in southeastern Connecticut, the plan was met with opposition from the local communities. Since then, all of the parties concerned have been working to come to a consensus on these crossings.

While there are still 13 crossings left—all in southeastern Connecticut—in two areas, Chapman's crossing in Old Lyme and Miner's Lane crossing in Waterford, there is consensus within the community and construction work can begin as early as summer 1996. However, if this money is rescinded today, funding for these two projects will be unavailable.

The construction of alternatives at Chapman's crossing and Miner's Lane crossing is critical to ensuring the safety of the residents who live near the rail line. In the case of Chapman's crossing, young children regularly cross the tracks en route from their homes on one side to the beach on the other. I fear that with the current situation a serious accident in the near future is inevitable. With the increased traffic likely to occur with electrification, this problem will only become more dangerous.

I am discouraged that the House will vote today to cut funding for safety improvements in order to provide a tax break for wealthy Americans and corporations. I will vote against this bill and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

STOP THE BAIT AND SWITCH HYPOCRISY!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 1995

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to voice my outrage about the hypocrisy that now governs this rescissions process.

Yesterday I stood on the floor and tried to offer what I believe was a reasonable alternative to the horrendous choices we were being asked to make.

I spoke out against the new game being employed in Washington—bait and switch.

The rules are simple: propose massive and irresponsible budget cuts one day. Then, turn around when cameras and reporters are watching, and claim you are fighting to restore the very cuts that grabbed the headlines just days before.

Games are fine, Mr. Speaker, but not here. Not when we are looking at billion-dollar cuts that will hurt children and older Americans, our veterans and those in this country who can't afford a powerful lobbyist.

I want to use one example of how playing these kinds of games will hurt the good people of San Diego. People are waiting to hear what we will do with funding for summer jobs for youth.

San Diego County has enjoyed a great deal of success for the past 13 years with the Hire-A-Youth Program. Hire-A-Youth gives more than 6,000 young people their first shot at real employment.

Let us be very clear about this. The kids who get these jobs are from families at or below the poverty level. More than half of them come from families on welfare.

They need these summer jobs to survive. They are not in this for running-around money. These jobs help them to help put food on their families' tables and clothes on their backs. They help pay the rent.

Hire-A-Youth has been doing exactly what many of my colleagues in this Congress have said we want to do about welfare: break the cycle of dependency by putting people to work.

We are providing these children an opportunity to learn the value of the work ethic.

What kind of message are we sending to America's youth by cutting the one resource they have to become productive, contributing members of our community?

I have heard from parents, teachers, business people, community leaders—you name it—imploping us to save summer jobs for kids. But the most poignant pleas are coming from the kids themselves.

Angela writes that sometimes students have the tendency to feel as if no one cares, but this program has given her the motivation to get a job.

Omar says that no one else would hire a 14-year-old, and through this program he learned valuable social and money management skills.

Isn't that what we want? Let's keep what works for our kids. Stop the bait and switch games. We must protect what works for our communities.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND CHAIRMAN OF JOINT CHIEFS GREET TROOPS RETURNING FROM HAITI AT FORT DRUM, NY

HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 1995

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the men and women of the 10th Mountain Division—Light Infantry—at Fort Drum, NY.

On February 16, I joined Defense Secretary William Perry and the Chairman of the joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. John Shalikashvili at Fort Drum in a ceremony honoring members of the 10th for their accomplishments during Operation "Uphold Democracy" in Haiti.

Mr. Speaker, on the same day the troops were honored at Fort Drum, the House of Representative took an important step in restoring U.S. defenses to the levels expected by the American people with passage of the National Security Revitalization Act.

The commanders of that mission, Lt. Gen. Henry Shelton, who commands the 18th Airborne Corps and Maj. Gen. David Meade, who commands the 10th, are here in the Capitol today to provide our colleagues with briefings on that mission.

Despite recent reductions and shortfalls in defense funding, we have deployed U.S. forces on more peacetime and humanitarian missions than ever before. The adaptability, motivation and high level of readiness have made the 10th Mountain Division a key player in many of these missions. It is appropriate that we salute them today as their commanders are here to provide us with the benefit of their experiences in assisting the restoration of democracy in Haiti.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL AP- PROPRIATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE AND RE- SCISSIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995

SPEECH OF

HON. Y. TIM HUTCHINSON

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 15, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1158) making emergency supplemental appropriations for additional disaster assistance and making rescissions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1995, and for other purposes:

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the amendment offered by our distinguished chairman of the Veterans' Affairs and Rules Committees to reinstate funding for six needed VA outpatient clinics, along with funds to help defray the VA's backlog of essential medical equipment purchases.

For years, Chairman STUMP has been working diligently to reform VA's current eligibility system. Part of that approach, which has the strong backing of the VA and veterans' service organizations, is to place a priority on outpatient care. Too many veterans are eligible for care only on an inpatient basis, when their ailment may only require outpatient care. This must change, and we have been taking positive steps to see that VA outpatient services become the wave of the future. Financially, it makes sense to shift to outpatient care, just as the private sector is now doing. It is clear that these funds must be restored.

In order to offset the cost of these projects, money will be taken from AmeriCorps. Two years ago, when we debated the merits of the AmeriCorps Program, I stood in this well in strong support of another Stump amendment, this one to set the educational benefits of the